

PENISTONE
Urban District Council.

ANNUAL
REPORT

OF


MR. JAMES A. ROSS, M.B., C.M.,

The Medical Officer of Health for the Year 1905.

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PENISTONE URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

FOR THE YEAR ENDING DECEMBER 31st, 1905.

TO THE CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS OF THE
PENISTONE URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

GENTLEMEN,

In presenting to you my Report for 1905, I beg to express my regret that it should have been so long delayed.

I have to record an increase in the death-rate, as compared with that for the preceding year. In 1904 the death-rate was 12·5 per 1000; for 1905 the rate was 13·2. The actual number of deaths occurring within the district was 35, giving a rate of 10·3 per 1000, but in addition to these, 10 deaths of residents took place in public institutions outside the district, which makes a corrected total of 45 deaths, and a nett death-rate of 13·2.

The average death-rate for the ten years 1895-1904 was 15; the death-rate for England and Wales for 1905, the lowest on record, was 15·2. The rate has been calculated on a population estimated to the middle of 1905 as 3,388.

Of the 10 deaths which took place outside the district, 1 occurred in Sheffield Royal Infirmary, 5 in West Riding Lunatic Asylum, and 4 in Penistone Union Workhouse.

There were 16 deaths under five years of age, and of these 11 were under one year. Four deaths occurred under one month, three of these being under one week.

No deaths were recorded during the month of August or November.

Of the total deaths, 11 were due to diseases of the Respiratory organs—2 to Pneumonia, 2 to Bronchitis, and 7 to other respiratory diseases. Phthisis and other tubercular diseases accounted for 4 deaths, 3 deaths took place from Whooping Cough, 2 from Epidemic Influenza, and 1 from Scarlet Fever. Cancer caused 3 deaths, Heart Diseases 2, and there were 3 fatal accidents.

Inquests were held in four cases, one of these being in a resident who died outside the district. One death was uncertified.

The number of deaths under one year was 11, which gives an infant death-rate of 107·8 per 1000 births registered. In 1904 the infant death-rate was 106, while that for England and Wales for 1905 was 128, the lowest ever recorded.

Of the deaths under one year, two each were respectively due to Whooping Cough, Tuberculous Peritonitis, and Convulsions. One was due to Premature Birth, and one to Suffocation by Overlaying.

The total number of births was 102, which, taking the estimated population as 3,388, gives a birth-rate of 30 per 1000 births registered. The average rate for the preceding ten years was 29·9, while that for England and Wales for 1905 was 27·2.

In 1904, the district was practically free from Zymotic disease, only two cases being notified. Last year, however, the case was very different, and in all, 91 cases of infectious disease were notified, namely, 86 cases of Scarlet Fever, 1 of Diphtheria, 2 of Erysipelas, and 2 of Puerperal Fever.

In January, 1905, 5 cases of Scarlet Fever were reported, and the disease was apparently stamped out, as there was no further case for over three months. On July 23rd, however, what proved to be a widespread epidemic commenced, and has only now been got under control. In July, there were 5 fresh cases, in August 21, September 11, October 13, November 21, and in December 10 were notified.

The great difficulty in dealing with the outbreak was on account of the exceedingly mild character of the symptoms in the majority of the cases. In a good many instances there was, without doubt, culpable carelessness on the part of the parents, but in a large proportion of the cases which received medical attention, it was only after very careful examination that the disease could be definitely recognised.

A child might be poorly, and look flushed, perhaps with slight sore throat, and would be kept at home for a day or two, and then, having apparently recovered, would be sent back to school, the parents having a wholesome dread of a visit from the School Attendance Officer. In due course the child would begin to desquamate, and before this condition, often slight, and exceedingly difficult to detect, was recognised, would of course have been doing its best to spread the disease to as many of its schoolmates as possible. In many cases no medical man has been consulted, the parents looking on the cases as ordinary slight feverish colds, and the result has been the continued prevalence of a highly infectious disease.

It was considered advisable to try to prevent, as far as possible, the spread of the epidemic by closing the schools. They accordingly were closed for four weeks, from August 28th to Sept. 25th, and again for three weeks, December 4th to December 22nd. Four special reports concerning the epidemic were made during 1905.

During the year several specimens were sent to the Bacteriological Laboratory at Wakefield for examination, and the prompt replies received were of great assistance in the diagnosis of doubtful cases of Tuberculosis and Diphtheria.

Sale of Food and Drugs Acts.

Under the Sale of Food and Drugs Acts, 17 Samples were taken, including milk, butter, ground ginger, ground rice, yeast, pepper, tincture of rhubarb, castor oil, glycerine, and lard. In every instance the article sampled was found to be genuine.

Factories and Workshops Act.

The number of Workshops registered in the district is 7, consisting, as before, of 2 Bakeshops, 3 Bootmakers' Shops, and 2 non-textile factories. The non-textile factories are (1) that of Mr. J. H. Wood, Printer, where, as before, the conditions as to light, air space, ventilation, sanitary conveniences, and protection of machinery, are excellent, and (2) the Rug Factory of Messrs. Whiteley Bros., to which the same remarks apply.

The workshops of Messrs. Hudson & Birks, Market Street, Bootmakers ; of Mr. Senior, Springvale, Bootmaker ; and of Mrs. W. Taylor, High Street, Bakeshop, are all satisfactory, and such as to comply with the regulations.

The Bakeshop of Misses A. & H. Wood has been replaced by an entirely new structure of a very up-to-date type. The arrangements for ventilation and light are excellent, and the air space is ample.

New premises have also been built by Mr. B. T. Hinchliffe, Bootmaker, where there is ample air space, ventilation, and protection of machinery.

In none of these establishments is overtime worked. The two Slaughter-houses in the district are well arranged and are kept in a very satisfactory condition.

Water Supply.

This has been more satisfactory than it was during 1904, when the supply to the higher parts of the town for three months was quite inadequate. Even now the water is at times laden with sediment and quite unusable, but on the whole the supply has been good and sufficient in quantity.

The Thurlstone pumping station has been yielding about 9,000,000 gallons per month, or about 300,000 gallons in the 24 hours. The supply from Racecommon has decreased by one half. In 1904 it was about 30,000 gallons per day; in 1905 the yield has been about 15,000 gallons per day.

The township of Darton is supplied with 60,000 to 70,000 gallons, and the G.C.R. with about 100,000 gallons per day. The New Cross supply has not been utilised since July.

Sewerage.

An excellent and well-conceived scheme for treating the sewage of the town is now completed and will be formally opened in the course of a few days. The scheme, as mentioned in my last Report, consists of septic tanks, three circular trickling filters, and a specially prepared filtration area. Ample provision is also provided for dealing with storm water.

The sewage from Bridge End still finds its way into the river owing to the fact that the line of pipes leading from there to the outfall works was found to have many faulty joints, admitting a large quantity of water. The whole track will have to be thoroughly overhauled before the Bridge End sewage can be conveyed to the Outfall Works.

I am, Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

JAMES A. ROSS, M.B., C.M.,

Medical Officer of Health.

TABLE C, 1905.

PENISTONE URBAN SANITARY DISTRICT.

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH—JAMES ALEX. ROSS, M.B., C.M.

SALARY—£24.

SANITARY INSPECTOR—HENRY HANWELL.

SALARY—£24.

What other positions does the Sanitary Inspector fill?—None.

WATER SUPPLY—

Quality—Good. Action on Lead—None observed.

Any extensions or change during 1905?—

Any inadequacy in any part?—Cubley.

SEWERAGE—

Is the district systematically sewered?—Yes.

Is rainfall from roads excluded?—Yes.

Extensions or Improvements during 1905—

Sewers—

Manholes—

Ventilating Shafts—

Any inadequacy, and where?—

SEWAGE DISPOSAL—

System adopted—Septic Tanks.

Any extensions in 1905?—Outfall Works proceeding.

Any complaints in neighbourhood of sewage works?—No.

SCAVENGING—

Are the privy-middens, ash-places, etc., cleansed by Sanitary staff, by Contractors, or by Owners and Tenants?—Sanitary staff.

Any inadequacy of scavenging?—Occasionally neglected, when the staff is otherwise engaged.

ADOPTIVE ACTS—

Acts adopted during 1905 (or parts)—None.

Any diseases added to Notification schedule, *e.g.*, Measles, Chicken-pox, &c.—No.

Any system of voluntary notification of Phthisis?—No.

BYE-LAWS—

Any adopted or sanctioned during 1905?—

(a) Under the Public Health Act, 1875—

(b) Under the Public Health Acts (Amendment Act, 1890—

REGULATED BUILDINGS, TRADES, &c.—

Common Lodging Houses—Number in District, ; inspections made, ; general condition,

Canal Boats—

Slaughter Houses—Number in District, 2 ; registered, 2 ; inspections made, 20 ; general condition, Very good.

Cowsheds—Number in District, 4 ; registered, 4 ; inspections made, 16 ; general condition, Good.

Offensive Trades—Number in District, ; registered, ; inspections made, ; general condition,

COWSHEDS—

Give date of Regulations in force under D.C.M. Order—

Any special inspection made during 1905—No.

Any systematic veterinary inspection of cows—No.

Any action taken by outside Authorities, *e.g.*, 'Milk Clauses' concerning milk supplied from this district?—No.

INFECTIOUS DISEASE—

What disinfecting apparatus is available and where is it situate?—
None in the district.

How are dwellings disinfected?—Chiefly by Sulphur Candles, a few by Formalin.

Any placards or handbills issued during 1905?—

SCHOOLS—

No. closed during 1905 on account of sickness— . Total duration of such closure—

Any ailment or contagious disease associated particularly with school life during 1905?—Scarlet Fever.

FACTORY AND WORKSHOP ACT—

Any cases of anthrax in factories or workshops during 1905?—No.

MIDWIVES ACT, 1902—

No. of cases of Puerperal Fever occurring in the practice of Midwives—None.

No. of such Midwives disinfected by Sanitary Authority under Rule E. 5 of the Central Midwives Board—

DWELLINGS—

Number of houses built during 1905—9. General character—
Cottage.

Any occupied houses unfit for habitation?—Bridge End.

Any overcrowding of persons in houses?—Several cases noted.

Any action taken under the Housing of the Working Classes Acts—
No.

Is house-to-house inspection systematically made?—No.

Are records kept?—No.

ALLOTMENTS ACTS—

No. of Allotments provided under the Acts—

No. of Allotments provided otherwise—

Any need for further provision—

NUISANCES—

Total number of Nuisances in hand at close of 1904—4. At
close of 1905—4. Reported during 1905—20. Abated during
1905—20.

Total No. of Legal Notices served for Abatement of Nuisances during
1905—None.

Total No. of Summonses or other Legal Proceedings—None.

Number of Sink Wastes Disconnected during 1905—2.

Number of Sink Wastes Trapped during 1905—2.

Number of Closets newly Constructed during 1905—8. Kinds—
Covered privy middens.

Number of Closets Reconstructed during 1905—10. Kinds—
Covered privy middens.

METEOROLOGY—

Mean Temperature for year 1905—

Rainfall—

WHAT ACTION HAS BEEN TAKEN IN REGARD TO THE FOLLOWING MATTERS

Seizure of Unsound Food—

Prosecutions—

Samples under Sale of Food and Drugs Acts—17. Prosecutions—

Has there been any poisoning during 1905 attributable to arsenical
beer?— Ptomaines?— Lead-contaminated water?—

River Pollution—Sewage discharges into the river at Bridge End.

Smoke observations taken—

Legal Notices—

Summonses—

Burial Grounds—No. in District, 2 ; Any need for (a) extension ?—

No. (b) Closure?—No.

Mortuaries—No. in District (a) for accidents—0

(b) other—0

BIRTHS during 1905—Males, 58 ; Females, 44 ; Total, 102.

Number illegitimate included in the above—1

Number of Still Births (not included)—Nil.

DEATHS DURING 1905—(1) Gross Deaths, *i.e.*, Total actually registered in
the district, without any correction—35.

(2) Nett Deaths on which the rates are calculated—Males 25, Females
20 ; 45.

Number uncertified, included in the above—1.

**Sanitary Requirements of District, and Suggestions of Medical
Officer of Health—**

The prevention of pollution of the river by sewage at Bridge End.

TABLE I.
FOR WHOLE DISTRICT.

Year.	Population estimated to Middle of each Year.	BIRTHS.		DEATHS UNDER ONE YEAR OF AGE.		DEATHS AT ALL AGES. TOTAL.		Total Deaths in Public Institu- tions in the District	Deaths of Non- residents registered in Public Institu- tions in the District	Deaths of Residents registered in Public Institu- tions beyond the District	NETT DEATHS AT ALL AGES BELONGING TO THE DISTRICT.	
		Numb'r	Rate*	Numb'r	Rate per 1000 Births registered	Numb'r	Rate*				Numb'r	Rate.*
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
1895	2692	84	31.1	13	155	55	20.4				55	20.4
1896	2725	73	26.8	11	151	49	19.4				49	19.4
1897	2760	85	30.8	9	106	42	14.9				42	14.9
1898	2794	85	30.4	10	48	48	17.5				48	17.5
1899	2829	88	31.1	11	125	46	16.6				46	16.6
1900	2864	86	30.0	13	151	33	11.1				33	11.1
1901	3082	103	33.0	7	67.9	49	15.8				51	15.8
1902	3142	80	25.4	14	174	43	13.7			4	47	14.9
1903	3200	102	31.8	9	88.2	29	9.0			1	30	9.6
1904	3261	94	29.1	10	106	38	11.6			3	41	12.5
Averages for years 1895—1904		88	29.9	10.7	117.1	43.2	15.0				44.2	15.2
1905	3388	102	30.0	11	107.8	35	10.3			10	45	13.2

* Rates calculated per 1000 of estimated population.

Area of District in acres (exclusive of area covered by water) 1133.

Total Population at all ages	3071	} At Census of 1901.
Number of inhabited houses ..	589	
Average number of persons per house	5.2	

1—Institutions within the District receiving sick and infirm persons from outside the District—Nil.

2—Institutions outside the District receiving sick and infirm persons from the District—Penistone Union Workhouse; Isolation Hospital Hoyland Moor; Sheffield Royal Infirmary; West Riding Lunatic Asylum.

3—Other Institutions, the deaths in which have been distributed among the several localities in the District—Nil.

Is the Workhouse within the District?—No.

TABLE II.

NAMES OF LOCALITIES.			PENISTONE			
Year.			Population esti- mated to middle of each year.	Births regis- tered.	Deaths at all ages.	Deaths under 1 year.
			<i>a</i>	<i>b</i>	<i>c.</i>	<i>d.</i>
1895 ...	...	...	2692	84	55	13
1896 ...	..	...	2725	73	49	11
1897 ...	...	...	2760	85	42	9
1898 ...	..	...	2794	85	48	10
1899 ...	...	...	2829	83	46	11
1900 ...	...	...	2864	86	33	13
1901 ...	...	..	3082	103	49	7
1902 ..	...	..	3142	80	43	14
1903 ..	...	...	3200	102	30	9
1904 ...	...	...	3259	94	41	10
Averages of Years 1895 to 1904.				88	43·6	10·7
1905 ...	...	...	3388	102	35	11

TABLE III.
CASES OF INFECTIOUS DISEASE notified during the Year 1905.

NOTIFIABLE DISEASE	Cases Notified in Whole District.							Cases Removed to Hospital.
	At all Ages.	At Ages.—Years.						
		Under 1	1 to 5	5 to 15	15 to 25	25 to 65	65 and upwards	
Small Pox.....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Cholera .....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Diphtheria	1	...	...	...	1	...	...	...
Membranous Croup...	...	...	...	...	..	...	...	...
Erysipelas	2	...	...	...	...	2	...	...
Scarlet Fever	86	1	28	52	5	...	...	...
Typhus Fever .....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Enteric Fever .....	...	..	...	...	...	...	...	...
Relapsing Fever .....	..	...	...	...	...	..	...	...
Continued Fever .....	...	...	...	...	...	...	..	...
Puerperal Fever	2	...	...	...	1	1	...	...
Plague .....	...	...	..	...	...	..	...	...
Totals	91	1	28	52	7	3	...	...

Isolation Hospital.—At Hoyland Moor, Hoylandswaine.

TABLE IV.
Causes of, and Ages at, Death during Year 1905.

Causes of Death.	Deaths in all Districts at subjoined Ages							Deaths in Public Institutions.
	All Ages	Under 1	1 and under 5	5 and under 15	15 and under 25.	25 and under 65	65 and upwards.	
Scarlet Fever	1	..	...	1	...	...	...	..
Whooping Cough	3	2	1	...	..	...	...	...
Epidemic Influenza	2	..	...	...	...	1	1	...
Other septic diseases	1	...	1	..	...	...	...	...
Phthisis..	2	...	...	...	...	1	1	...
Other Tubercular Diseases...	2	2	...	...	...	...	..	...
Cancer, Malignant Disease ...	3	...	...	...	...	3	...	...
Bronchitis.....	2	...	...	...	...	...	2	...
Pneumonia	2	...	...	..	...	2	...	...
Other diseases of Respiratory Organs	7	3	3	...	..	...	1	...
Alcoholism—Cirrhosis of liver	1	...	...	...	...	...	1	...
Premature Birth	1	1	...	...	...	...	...	...
Measles .....	..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Diseases&Acndts.ofParturition	2	1	...	...	...	1	...	...
Heart Diseases	2	...	...	...	...	1	1	...
Accidents	3	...	...	...	1	2	...	...
All other causes	11	2	...	1	...	2	6	...
All causes	45	11	5	2	1	13	13	...

TABLE V.

INFANTILE MORTALITY DURING THE YEAR 1905.

Deaths from stated Causes in Weeks and Months under One Year of Age.

Cause of Death.	Under 1 week.	2-3 weeks.	3-4 weeks.	Total under 1 month.	3-4 months.	4-5 months.	6-7 months.	7-8 months.	9-10 months.	10-11 months.	11-12 months.	Total deaths under 1 year
Common Infectious Diseases												
Small-pox												
Measles												
Whooping Cough								1		1		2
Diarrhoeal Diseases—												
Diarrhoea, all forms ...												
Wasting Diseases—												
Premature Birth	1			1								1
Atrophy, Debility, Marasmus												
Tuberculous Disease—												
Tuberculous Peritonitis :					2							2
Tabes Mesenterica ...												
Bronchitis												
Convulsions	1		1	2								2
Suffocation, overlaying ...	1			1								1
Other Causes						2			1			3
All Causes { Certified 10 } { Uncertified 1 }	3		1	4	2	2		1	1	1		11

Population estimated to middle of 1905, 3,388.

Births in the year—legitimate 101 ; illegitimate 1 ; Total, 102.

Deaths from all Causes at all Ages 45.

Annual Report of the Medical Officer of Health for the year 1905,
for the

URBAN DISTRICT OF PENISTONE,

On the administration of the Factory and Workshop Act, 1901,
In connection with

Factories, Workshops, Laundries, Workplaces & Homework

1.—INSPECTION.

Including Inspections made by Sanitary Inspectors or Inspectors
of Nuisances.

Premises.	Number of		
	Inspections.	Written Notices.	Prosecutions
Factories (Including Factory Laundries)	2		
Workshops (Including Workshop Laundries)	5		
Workplaces			
Homeworkers' Premises			
Total	7		

Workshops on the Register at the end of the year :—

A. & H. Wood ...	Bakeshop ...	}	Bakeshops	2
W. Taylor ...	„ ...			
Hudson & Birks ...	Bootmakers ...	}	Workshops	3
John Senior ...	„ ...			
B. T. Hinchliffe ...	„ ...	}	Non-textile factories ...	2
J. H. Wood ...	Printer ...			
Whiteley Bros. ...	Rugmakers ...			
Number of Workshops on Register ...				7